

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 11805 01 OF 02 271739Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 NEA-07 EA-06 IO-06
INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02
EB-04 PA-01 ICA-01 L-01 ACDA-10 /078 W
-----055437 271822Z /72

P R 271720Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9730
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 11805

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, SO, GW, US
SUBJECT: FRG/SOMALIA RELATIONS: SIAD BARRE VISIT TO
BONN

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING SIAD BARRE'S CONVERSATIONS WITH
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER, THE
GERMAN SIDE EMPHASIZED THE LINK BETWEEN A SOMALI
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 11805 01 OF 02 271739Z

DECLARATION ON BORDERS AND WESTERN AID. SIAD BARRE
DENIED ANY AGGRESSIVE INTENT ON HIS NEIGHBORS' TERRITORY
AND AFFIRMED THAT THE FIGHT IN THE OGADEN WAS AN
INTERNAL ETHIOPIAN MATTER BETWEEN THE EPMG AND THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS. IN THE GERMAN VIEW, SIAD BARRE
RELIES NOW ALMOST COMPLETELY ON THE WEST. HIS
WILLINGNESS TO MAKE A PUBLIC AND BINDING STATEMENT ON

NON-AGGRESSION WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON HOW HE SEES HIS OWN POSITION IN SOMALIA. END SUMMARY.

1. SOMALIA PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT ON THE FRG FROM JUNE 18 TO 20. HIS TALKS WITH FRG OFFICIALS WERE LIMITED BUT ON A VERY HIGH LEVEL. HE MET WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT FOR TWO HOURS ON JUNE 19 IN THE COMPANY OF GENSCHER AND SOMALI MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JAMA BARRE. THE NEXT DAY HE SPENT TWO HOURS WITH GENSCHER. HE HAD NO OTHER OFFICIAL MEETINGS.

2. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE WORKING LEVEL OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS EXPERIENCED SOME DELAYS IN GETTING A FULL READ-OUT ON THE TALKS. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION COMES FROM UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS OF THE SCHMIDT AND GENSCHER CONVERSATIONS MADE BY THE FRG'S AMBASSADOR TO MOGADISCIO METTERNICH (PLEASE PROTECT THROUGHOUT).

3. SIAD BARRE OPENED HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE CHANCELLOR WITH A REVIEW OF SOVIET DESIGNS ON AFRICA, A VITAL PART OF WHICH IS THE DESTRUCTION OF SOMALIA. HE ASSERTED THAT INVOLVEMENT OF ONE GREAT POWER ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT REQUIRED THE COUNTER-BALANCE OF THE OTHER. SOMALIA DID NOT NEED TROOPS TO PROTECT ITSELF BUT IT DID NEED WEAPONS. THE REACTION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 11805 01 OF 02 271739Z

OF THE US HAD, IN THIS RESPECT, BEEN MOST RESERVED AND UNSATISFACTORY (SIAD BARRE IS QUOTED AT ONE POINT AS SAYING THAT DEFENSE AGAINST A MIG 23 IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH THE ANTI-TANK WEAPONS THE US WOULD PROVIDE).

4. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AGREED WITH SIAD BARRE ON THE DANGER OF SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFRICA AND TOLD HIM THAT HE MADE THE GERMAN ARGUMENT ON THE INDIVISIBILITY OF DETENTE DIRECTLY TO BREZHNEV. WHAT SIAD BARRE SAW AS "RELUCTANCE" ON THE PART OF THE US TO AID SOMALIA WOULD DISAPPEAR QUICKLY IF SOMALIA WERE ATTACKED. THE WEST WAS WILLING TO PROVIDE SOMALIA WITH THE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IT NEEDED FOR STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, WESTERN PUBLIC OPINION WOULD NOT SUPPORT CONTINUED AID IF IT WERE PERCEIVED AS ABETTING AGGRESSION. SOMALI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OGADEN HAD BEEN A NECESSARY FIRST STEP BUT, THE CHANCELLOR SAID, A WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT SOMALIA WOULD RESPECT THE BORDERS WITH HER NEIGHBORS WAS ESSENTIAL.

5. SIAD BARRE NOTED THAT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A PUBLIC DECLARATION ON THE BORDERS, HE HAD DONE EVERYTHING

POSSIBLE TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE HORN CONFLICT.
THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS VIS-A-VIS DJIBOUTI; ETHIOPIA WAS
A PURE COLONIAL PROBLEM AND THE FIGHTING IN THE OGADEN
WAS A MATTER TO BE RESOLVED BETWEEN THE EPMG AND THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 11805 02 OF 02 271800Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 NEA-07 EA-06 IO-06
INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02
EB-04 PA-01 ICA-01 L-01 ACDA-10 /078 W
-----055593 271822Z /72

P R 271720Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9731
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 11805

LIMDIS

6. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT REITERATED GERMAN POLICY AGAINST
PROVIDING WEAPONS TO AREAS OF TENSION. HE NOTED,
HOWEVER, THAT OTHERS (US AND UK) WERE SOMEWHAT FREER
OF THOSE LIMITATIONS AND URGED THAT SOMALIA ACCEPT THE
VISIT FROM THE US MILITARY DELEGATION, ADDING THAT SIAD
BARRE MUST BE FRANK IN SHOWING THE US WHERE HE NEEDED

HELP. THE UK, HE SAID, COULD ALSO PLAY A MEDIATING ROLE
IN SOMALI PROBLEMS WITH KENYA AND HE SUGGESTED THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 11805 02 OF 02 271800Z

SIAD BARRE TALK TO LONDON ON THIS POINT. SCHMIDT
OFFERED TO CONTACT CALLAGHAN PERSONALLY ON THIS POINT.

7. SCHMIDT ASKED WHETHER SOMALIA HAD DISCUSSED ITS
PROBLEMS WITH THE PRC. SIAD BARRE INDICATED THAT
THIS HAD ALREADY BEEN DONE BUT THAT THE CHINESE SEEMED
INTERESTED ONLY IN ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA. THERE WAS
NO HELP FORTHCOMING FROM PEKING.

8. IN HIS TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER ON JUNE 20, SIAD BARRE NOTED THAT HE HAD
ALREADY GIVEN ASSURANCES TO THE US AND TO BRITISH
MINISTER OF STATE ROWLANDS THAT SOMALIA WOULD RESPECT
ITS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT
SOMALIA HAD UTMOST RESPECT FOR DJIBUTI'S INDEPENDENCE
AND REITERATED HIS VIEW THAT THE OGADEN WAS A
COLONIAL DISPUTE. SIAD BARRE OBSERVED THAT REPEATED
SOMALI APPROACHES TO KENYA HAD NEVER BEEN ANSWERED.
IT SEEMED, HE SAID, THAT KENYA WOULD RATHER ENGAGE IN
ANTI-SOMALI PROPAGANDA. GENSCHER NOTED THAT NON-
AGGRESSION PACTS WERE THE BASIS OF THE FRG'S TREATIES
WITH HER EASTERN EUROPEAN NEIGHBORS.

9. THE FOREIGN OFFICE CONSIDERS THE SIAD BARRE VISIT
A SUCCESS IN THAT IT SERVED TO GET ACROSS TO SIAD BARRE
ONCE AGAIN THE WEST'S EMPHASIS ON THE NON-AGGRESSION
PREREQUISITE FOR SETTLEMENT OF THE HORN CONFLICT. IT
APPEARED TO THE GERMAN SIDE THAT SIAD BARRE WAS
PHILOSOPHICALLY PREPARED TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON
SOMALIA'S RESPECT FOR HER INTERNATIONAL BORDERS BUT,
BECAUSE OF HIS SHAKY INTERNAL POSITION HE DID NOT YET
FEEL SECURE ENOUGH TO DO SO.

HE MADE NO ALLUSION TO A PRO-SOVIET SHIFT IN SOMALI
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 11805 02 OF 02 271800Z

POLICY AND, IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S OPINION, SEEMS
COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON THE WEST.

10. SIAD BARRE WAS NOT IN BONN TO DISCUSS AID.
THE FRG'S AID AGREEMENT WITH SOMALIA WAS WORKED OUT
EARLIER THIS YEAR AND IS PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY.
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT REFERRED TO GERMAN ASSISTANCE ONLY

ONCE DURING HIS TALKS, NOTING THE DM 81.7 MILLION IN
EQUIPMENT AID WHICH WILL BE GOING TO SOMALIA DURING
THE 77/78 PERIOD. FOR 1979, SCHMIDT SAID, THE FRG WILL
AGAIN DO "SOMETHING" FOR SOMALIA.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN11805
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780266-0475
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780618/aaaaaouq.tel
Line Count: 229
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2b2e667f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2199670
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG/SOMALIA RELATIONS: SIAD BARRE VISIT TO BONN BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING SIAD BARRE'S CONVERSATIONS
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, SO, GE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2b2e667f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014